



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 14, No. 8
Issued May 27, 2014

For the week of May 19-25, 2014
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Break in Weather Sees Planting Progress

A solid five days of warm, dry, and sunny weather this week saw farmers racing to complete spring fieldwork. Though Monday's rains were heavy in the northwest, reporters in the area noted that farmers were able to get into fields by the weekend. Daytime highs climbed into the 80s across most of the state, warming soils and drying out muddy fields. Topsoil moistures were 19 percent surplus this week compared to 30 percent surplus last week. With crop insurance deadlines looming, producers were reportedly working into the night to plant, spread manure, and apply chemicals. Planting, tillage, and emergence measures took a huge leap forward this week, though they were still trailing the five year average.

There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were normal to 4 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 71 to 75 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 47 to 51 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.14 inches in Madison and Milwaukee to 1.68 inches in Eau Claire. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

As of May 25, **spring tillage** was 74 percent complete statewide, 28 points above the previous week.

Corn was 67 percent planted, up 31 percentage points over the previous week. Twenty-one percent of the crop had emerged.

Soybeans were 39 percent planted, compared to 8 percent last week. Statewide, 4 percent of soybeans had emerged, compared to 4 percent last year and a five year average of 14 percent.

Oats were 76 percent planted and 47 percent emerged, both increasing 21 points over last week.

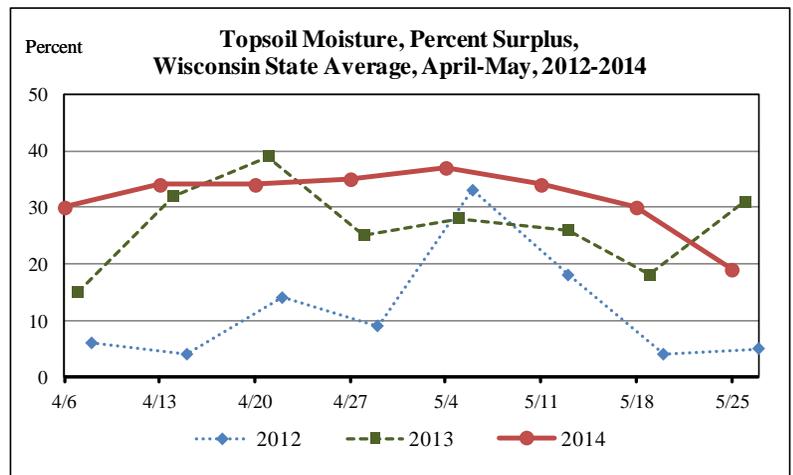
Winter Wheat had 3 percent heading, with 66 percent of the crop in good to excellent condition.

Potatoes were 83 percent planted, up 17 percentage points from last week.

All Hay rated 84 percent good to excellent condition statewide.

The first cutting of **Alfalfa hay** was 4 percent complete compared to 2 percent last year and a five year average of 17 percent.

Pasture condition improved quickly, with 72 percent rated good to excellent this week compared to 62 percent last week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 25, 2014

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Pasture & Range | 2 | 3 | 23 | 57 | 15 |
| Hay, All | 0 | 2 | 14 | 60 | 24 |
| Winter Wheat | 1 | 6 | 27 | 50 | 16 |

Source: USDA, NASS

Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 25, 2014

| Crop and percent of acreage | District average | | | | | | | | | State average | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----|----|-----|----|------|----|----|------|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | NW | NC | NE | WC | C | EC | SW | SC | SE | This week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
| | Percent | | | | | | | | | Percent | | | |
| Corn planted | 53 | 40 | 37 | 77 | 53 | 38 | 89 | 85 | 82 | 67 | 36 | 61 | 80 |
| Corn emerged | 10 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 20 | 3 | 33 | 39 | 40 | 21 | 1 | 24 | 42 |
| Soybeans planted | 16 | 14 | 16 | 42 | 30 | 24 | 50 | 56 | 55 | 39 | 8 | 26 | 50 |
| Oats planted | 81 | 57 | 49 | 91 | 58 | 52 | 96 | 96 | 89 | 76 | 55 | 84 | 93 |
| Oats emerged | 42 | 10 | 18 | 48 | 44 | 23 | 80 | 84 | 67 | 47 | 26 | 51 | 77 |
| Potatoes planted | 83 | 30 | 50 | 100 | 97 | n.a. | 40 | 50 | n.a. | 83 | 66 | n.a. | n.a. |
| Spring tillage completed | 59 | 63 | 58 | 87 | 55 | 57 | 93 | 90 | 80 | 74 | 46 | 72 | 87 |

Source: USDA, NASS

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 25, 2014

| Item | District average | | | | | | | | | State average | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| | NW | NC | NE | WC | C | EC | SW | SC | SE | This week | Last week | Last year |
| | Days | | | | | | | | | Days | | |
| Days Suitable | 5.0 | 4.3 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.9 | 5.4 | 5.9 | 5.3 | 3.5 | 4.0 |
| | Percent | | | | | | | | | Percent | | |
| Topsoil Moisture | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Very Short | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Short | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 14 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Adequate | 77 | 60 | 70 | 84 | 78 | 61 | 83 | 72 | 77 | 76 | 67 | 69 |
| Surplus | 21 | 40 | 30 | 13 | 19 | 37 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 19 | 30 | 29 |
| Subsoil Moisture | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Very Short | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Short | 6 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 11 | 11 | 7 | 5 | 6 |
| Adequate | 76 | 74 | 64 | 84 | 85 | 72 | 85 | 79 | 78 | 81 | 77 | 82 |
| Surplus | 17 | 21 | 28 | 5 | 14 | 27 | 2 | 9 | 11 | 12 | 18 | 11 |

Source: USDA, NASS

Wisconsin Crop Progress

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BARRON-P.T.: What a difference a week makes. Finished planting Saturday night. A few wet spots in fields. Alfalfa looks real good, very little winter kill. Everywhere you look you can see tractors working.

BURNETT-J.D.: Winter rye looks good. Hay needs dry weather.

CLARK-R.H.: Soil temperature 49 degrees. Rain early in week stopped progress, but tillage/planters were starting to hum this morning. Hay crop looks good, but slow to develop as PEAQ stick readings range from 230-270 RFV south to north in county. Winter small grains look good and some may be harvested for forage in the next week. Need some dry weather to get crops planted.

MARATHON-S.N.: Beautiful week to work on fields with clear, warm, sunny skies. Did receive 2.25 inches of rain this week with the western part of the county receiving the most. Alfalfa looks good; loaded with dandelions.

FLORENCE-T.B.: A lot of small grains planted this week and some corn. We had slightly above normal warmth for the later part of the week. Hay fields are a couple weeks behind in growth but they do look good. Winter damage looks minimal.

BUFFALO-R.S.: On tilled ground, soil temp is 56 degrees at 3 inch depth. A lot of planting the past week. 1st crop hay will happen next.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Tractors are running day and night trying to get seed in the ground. Fertilizer trucks are also burning up the roads. Spray rigs are making their appearance and race to keep up with the rest. Spring work and planting has definitely gone wild. I just hope that farmers are getting adequate rest and take care not to take chances where they shouldn't. I have not seen hay harvesting as of May 25th.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Early peas germinated well. First crop hay should be above average in yield. Emerged corn is yellow.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: The recent stretch of favorable weather has producers working full tilt to try to catch up on the very late start to spring planting - in many cases a full month behind normal. Some oats and wheat have become very yellow due to extremely wet soils. Alfalfa hay is stretching with the seasonal temperatures. Apple and fruit trees are ready to blossom.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Clay soil on the East side of the county is still too wet for many farmers.

OUTAGAMIE-J.B.: Got 1.0 inch of rain between Monday and this morning. Winter wheat just starting to grow.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Dry weather is allowing farmers to get into the field the past couple of days.

GRANT-J.R.: A welcomed break in the weather to get soybeans planted. Some first cutting of hay is taking place. Could use some rain.

DODGE-S.B.: The weather turned around nicely with seven good days. We had lots of sunshine and warmer temperatures.

ROCK-C.O.: Despite recent rain, the top soil is dry. Irrigators are running as are rotary-hoes trying to break up the crust.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Great week of weather for planting. Could use a little rain now.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Had 5 nice days to do field work. Still hauling manure.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 25, 2014

| City | Temperature | | | | | | Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/ | | Precipitation | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | Avg. max. | Avg. min. | High max. | Low min. | Avg. | Avg. dep. from normal * | Mar. 1 to May 24 | Mar. 1 to May 24 normal* | Last Week | Since Mar. 1 | Mar. 1 dep. from normal * | Year to date | Year dep. from normal * |
| Eau Claire | 72 | 47 | 79 | 40 | 60 | +1 | 284 | 361 | 1.68 | 10.24 | +2.82 | 13.44 | +4.18 |
| Green Bay | 72 | 48 | 79 | 44 | 60 | +2 | 232 | 303 | 0.75 | 7.39 | +0.80 | 10.18 | +1.33 |
| La Crosse | 74 | 51 | 81 | 46 | 62 | +0 | 348 | 418 | 0.17 | 10.11 | +2.15 | 12.47 | +2.34 |
| Madison | 75 | 51 | 86 | 44 | 63 | +4 | 367 | 411 | 0.14 | 7.97 | -0.08 | 9.86 | -0.74 |
| Milwaukee | 71 | 48 | 86 | 44 | 60 | +3 | 275 | n.a. | 0.14 | 7.41 | -1.30 | 10.15 | -2.07 |

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

n.a.=not available. T=trace. Source: USDA, NASS.

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and the National Weather Service.